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Party and Government Delegation of SAR Led by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi Visits DPRK At Invitation of Premier KIM IL SUNG

A Party and government delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic led by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi, General Secretary of the Arab Baath Socialist Party and Head of State and Prime Minister of the Syrian Arab Republic, paid a state visit to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for seven days from Sept. 27 to Oct. 3 at the invitation of Marshal Kim Il Sung, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and Head of State and Premier of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Arrival in Pyongyang, Warm Welcome

A Party and government delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic led by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi, General Secretary of the Arab Baath Socialist Party and Head of State and Prime Minister of the Syrian Arab Republic, arrived in Pyongyang on Sept. 27 by special plane to visit the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at the invitation of Marshal Kim Il Sung, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and Head of State and Premier of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The Party and government delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic led by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi consists of the following members—Hakem Al-Fyez, Member of the Executive Committee of the National Leadership of the Arab Baath Socialist Party; Abdul Hamid Makdaad, Member of the Executive Committee of the Syrian Regional Leadership of the ABSP; Mustafa Al-Sayed, Foreign Minister; Moustapha Tlass, Member of the Executive Committee of the Syrian Regional Leadership of the ABSP

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The Party and government delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic led by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi arrived in Pyongyang on Sept. 27 at the invitation of Premier Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader. Photo: Premier Kim Il Sung warmly shaking hands with His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi

Speech of Premier KIM IL SUNG

At Airfield

Your Excellency esteemed Noureddine Al-Atassi, General Secretary of the Arab Baath Socialist Party and Head of State and Prime Minister of the Syrian Arab Republic!

Esteemed distinguished guests of the Syrian Arab Republic!

Comrades and friends!

I, in the name of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the entire Korean people, warmly welcome the visit to our country of the Party and government delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic headed by Your Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi, the outstanding leader of the Syrian Arab Republic.

Today our people are joyously meeting you, friendly mission of the Syrian people, as our most honoured guests.

It is because the Syrian people are our intimate friend and brother fighting on the same front against the common enemy.

The peoples of our two countries are linked with the firm bonds of friendship through the common struggle against the imperialists headed by the U.S. imperialists and their stooges and for consolidating national independence and creating a new life.

The Korean people actively support the just struggle and resolute stand of the Syrian people for crushing the Israeli aggressors, the lackeys of U.S. imperialism, and achieving territorial integrity and defending the national sovereignty and dignity of the Arab people and sincerely rejoice over all the successes made by them in the construction of a new society.

We firmly believe that the current visit to our country of Your Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi will be an epochal occasion in further consolidating and developing the relations of friendship and cooperation between the peoples of Korea and Syria and contribute to strengthening the solidarity of the world revolutionary peoples fighting against imperialism and colonialism.

Esteemed guests!

Your visit to our country is a great inspiration to our people who are dashing forward at the speed of Chullima for expediting socialist construction and bringing earlier the independent peaceful unification of the fatherland.

Whenever you may go, our people will accord you warm welcome and hospitality and, through this, you will feel close to you the feelings of deep respect and friendship cherished by the Korean people toward the Syrian people.

I sincerely hope that the Party of Your Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi, our intimate friend, will spend pleasant and fruitful days as in your country during its stay in our country.

Long live the militant friendship between the peoples of Korea and Syria!

Long live the friendship and solidarity between the Korean and Arab peoples!

Long live the solidarity of the peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the whole world! (KCNA)

Speech of Prime Minister NOUREDDINE AL-ATASSI

At Airfield

Your Excellency Premier Kim Il Sung!

Friends!

I am happy over the fact that the Party and government delegation of our Syrian Arab Republic has the opportunity to visit the friendly Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

I take this opportunity to convey the greetings from the people of the Syrian Arab Republic, the Arab Baath Socialist Party and the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to Marshal Kim Il Sung, the Leader and guide of the Korean revolution, and to the masses of the people of your country, the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

I express thanks to you for according such a cordial welcome today to me and the members of the Syrian Arab delegation.

The Arab people cherish the deepest feeling of friendship toward the Korean people.

Though our two countries are separated from each other by a long distance, we have become closer and the relations of friendship sealed between the peoples of our two countries are further developing through the common struggle.

The Arab people gazed the liberation struggle waged by the people of your country for many years, especially the struggle of the people of your glorious country against U.S. imperialism after the Second World War, and expressed full support to and great admiration for it.

In the period of the three-year Fatherland Liberation War against the U.S. imperialist aggressors, the Korean people repulsed the U.S. imperialist aggression against their country and won victory by displaying extraordinary staunchness and heroism.

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The Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK awarded Orders and Medals of the DPRK to the members of the Party and government delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic headed by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi. Photo: Premier Kim Il Sung awarding the Order of National Flag First Class to His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi

Talks Held between Premier KIM IL SUNG and His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi

Talks were held on Sept. 20 between Comrade Kim Il Sung, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and Head of State and Premier of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi, General Secretary of the Arab Baath Socialist Party and Head of State and Prime Minister of the Syrian Arab Republic.

Present at the talks from our side were Comrade Choi Yong Kun, Member of the Political Committee and its Presidium, and Secretary, of the CC of the WPK and President of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly; Comrade Kim Kwang Hyup, Member of the Political Committee and its Presidium, and Secretary, of the CC of the WPK and vice-Premier of the Cabinet; Comrade Pak Sung Chul, Member of the Political Committee of the CC of the WPK and vice-Premier of the Cabinet and Foreign Minister; Comrade Colonel-General Han Ik Soo, Candidate Member of the Political Committee of the CC of the WPK and vice-Minister of National Defence; and Chang Ka Ik, Charge d'Affaires Ad Interim of the Korean Embassy in the Syrian Arab Republic.

Present from the Syrian side were Hakem Al-Fyez, Member of the Executive Committee of the National Leadership of the Arab Baath Socialist Party; Abdul Hamid Makdaad, Member of the Executive Committee of the Syrian Regional Leadership of the ABSP; Mustafa Al-Sayed, Foreign Minister; and Moustapha Tlass, Member of the Executive Committee of the Syrian Regional Leadership of the ABSP, First Deputy Minister of Defence and Chief of General Staff—members of the Party and government delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic headed by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi.

The talks proceeded in an atmosphere of friendship from beginning to end. (KCNA)

Speech of Premier KIM IL SUNG

AT BANQUET ARRANGED BY HIM IN WELCOME OF PARTY AND GOVERNMENT DELEGATION OF SAR

Esteemed Your Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi!

Esteemed distinguished guests from the Syrian Arab Republic!

Dear comrades and friends!

We are very glad today to share the seats with the Party and government delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic headed by Your Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi, General Secretary of the Arab Baath Socialist Party, Head of State and Prime Minister of the Syrian Arab Republic, in Pyongyang, the capital of our country in an atmosphere overflowing with friendship.

I, in the name of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, the Government of the Republic and the entire Korean people, warmly welcome once again Your Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi, our intimate friend, and your party.

The Party and government delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic has come to our country as the mission of the people of country fighting valiantly against the U.S. imperialists and their stooges.

Your visit constitutes a great support and encouragement to our people standing on the same front against U.S. imperialism, the common enemy, and a vivid demonstration of the deep friendship and solidarity sealed between the peoples of our two countries.

The resourceful and courageous Syrian people with a long history and cultural traditions are fighting in a revolutionary way in resolute opposition to imperialism and Zionism and for the good future of their fatherland.

The Korean people highly appraise and sincerely rejoice over the fact that the Syrian people have enforced various progressive social and economic reforms intended for a new social system and have been successfully developing the national economy and national culture since they attained the national independence, especially after the March 8, 1963, revolution.

Today the U.S. imperialists are frenziedly trying to ignite a new war of aggression by instigating the Zionists, with a view to dominating and enslaving the Arab countries.

The Government and people of the Syrian Arab Republic are in firm preparedness to restore the occupied Arab territories and certainly liberate Palestine by fighting the Israeli aggressors to a finish, resolutely repulsing all the criminal manoeuvrings of the U.S. imperialists and their accomplices, the British and West German imperialists.

Such revolutionary stand of the Syrian people and their just struggle are an important link in the chains of the anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. imperialist struggle of the world people.

The Korean people incisively denounce the aggressive manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialists and their stooges against the Arab people and express firm militant solidarity with the Syrian people and all other Arab peoples in the struggle for beating down the Israeli aggressors, defending the national independence and dignity and achieving territorial integrity.

The Korean people are firmly convinced that the courageous Syrian people will certainly win a glorious victory in the sacred struggle for accomplishing the anti-imperialist, national liberation revolution and ardently wish it.

U.S. imperialism is the common enemy of the Korean and Syrian peoples and the truculent enemy of the people the world over.

Today, the U.S. imperialist aggressors are bestially repressing the liberation struggle of peoples and disturbing peace in Korea and Arab, Vietnam and Cuba, and in Asia, Africa and Latin America and everywhere they set foot in the world.

However, the U.S. imperialists are running downhill and their weakness has become more pronounced than ever before.

When the peoples of all countries making revolution join strength and attack U.S. imperialism from all sides, they can well beat it down and accomplish the common cause of peace and democracy, national independence and socialism.

Today our people are building socialism, standing face to face with the U.S. imperialist aggressors and are vigorously struggling to accelerate the unification of the fatherland and the nation-wide victory of the Korean revolution, while stepping up economic construction and defence upbuilding in parallel in face of their daily intensifying new war provocation manoeuvrings.

Taking this opportunity, I express deep thanks to Your Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi and the Syrian people for the positive support of the Government and people of the Syrian Arab Republic to the struggle of our people for unifying the fatherland independently on a democratic basis, without any interference of outside forces, after driving the U.S. imperialist aggressors out of South Korea.

Though Korea and Syria are separated from each other by a long distance geographically, the peoples of our two countries have become intimate friends and comrades-in-arms for the commonness of the historic position in which they were imposed upon all misfortunes and pains under the colonial rule of imperialists and for the commonness of the creation of a new life.

The Korean people are very happy over the fact that the relations of friendship and cooperation between the peoples of our two countries are expanding and developing day by day and value the friendship and solidarity with the Syrian people.

We will advance, firmly joining hands with the Syrian people in the joint struggle against the imperialists headed by U.S. imperialism and their stooges in the future too.

Comrades and friends!

I propose a toast to the prosperity and development of the Syrian Arab Republic, to the friendship and solidarity between the Korean and Syrian peoples, to the solidarity of the peoples of Asia, Africa, Latin America and the rest of the world, to the good health of esteemed Your Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi, to the good health of the distinguished guests of Syria, to the good health of the diplomatic representatives from various countries and to the good health of comrades and friends. (KCNA)

Speech of Prime Minister NOUREDDINE AL-ATASSI

AT BANQUET ARRANGED BY PREMIER KIM IL SUNG IN WELCOME OF PARTY AND GOVERNMENT DELEGATION OF SAR

Your Excellency Kim Il Sung, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and Premier of the Cabinet!

Your Excellency Choi Yong Kun, President of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly!

Friends!

I, in my own name and in the name of the comrade members of the Party and government delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic, express thanks to the friendly Korean people for the welcome and hospitality they accorded us with warm friendly sentiments from the moment of our arrival in your capital.

Through such welcome and hospitality you expressed the feelings of friendship for us and Arab people.

We Arab people sincerely wish to share such friendly feelings with you.

We have come to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to convey you the greetings of the Arab people, the Arab Baath Socialist Party and the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and to see directly the important successes made by you in all fields, consolidate the relations of friendship and cooperation between the peoples of our two countries and exchange views on strengthening their joint struggle.

We firmly believe here that the meeting between the fighting peoples is important and such meeting is useful in the struggle against imperialism, colonialism and Zionism and exerts active influence upon that struggle.

The Syrian Arab people and the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic which always support the struggle of the Korean people for achieving the independent unification of the fatherland on a democratic basis, without any interference of outside forces, after driving the U.S. imperialist troops out of South Korea, highly praise and appreciate the lofty stand of the people of your country toward the struggle of the Arab people against the Zionists and imperialist aggression and for liberating the occupied Arab land and unifying the Arab fatherland.

Your Excellency Premier Kim Il Sung!

Friends!

The Arab people and the Korean people are linked to each other through their common struggle and have had many points of close resemblance in the historic period from the remote ages.

Historically, our Arab countries and Korea were both occupied in the wake of ceaseless aggression by the colonialists, their resources were plundered and our two countries faced intrigues to impose upon them split and backwardness.

Furthermore, our two countries have suffered from the provocations and grave armed invasion by the enemies seeking to block our revolutionary advance.

Thus, the peoples of our two countries could not but wage a fierce struggle for repulsing the aggression, bringing division to an end and achieving progress and independence.

The Korean people have made today tremendous achievements and are recording ever greater successes by embodying the ideas of *Juche*, under the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Comrade Premier Kim Il Sung.

We hail the successes made by you and wish you continuous success on the road of socialist construction along which you have taken a big stride.

The Arab people are struggling to achieve independence and self-sustenance, while fighting against the aggression on their territory and invasion by Jewish imperialism.

Holding high the slogans "Rifle in One Hand and Pick in the Other" and "Everything for Struggle" we are carrying out socialist transformation in the Syrian Arab area, building a prospering new country and exploiting oil and other natural resources of ours.

The Syrian Arab Republic has created the pioneer's experiences in the Near and Middle East by exploiting oil and laying oil pipelines extending to the coast at home.

We have expanded and developed the oil refineries. Thus, we have been able to increase the oil production capacity and refine home-produced oil.

This is a blow at the world monopolies headed by U.S. monopolies. This blow encouraged many countries to inflict blows on the U.S. monopolies.

We are investing in the development of apatite and iron ore, the production of which will begin before long. We are expanding our electric power networks, we have built a farming tractor factory and a netrogen fertilizer factory and are fortifying their foundation, and are developing agriculture and improving soil by making extensive use of fertilizers and farm machines.

Friends!

The aggression of Jewish imperialism on the Arab nation on June 5, 1967, was aimed at

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and First Deputy Minister of Defence and Chief of General Staff.

Suite members accompanied the delegation.

Turning out in the airfield were a great number of working people in the city, carrying pennants and bouquets and balloons of all colours in their festive attire, who are waging a vigorous struggle for the thorough implementation of the great ideas of *Juche* of Marshal Kim Il Sung and the revolutionary line of independence, self-sustenance and self-defence, their embodiments, and for the unification of the fatherland and the complete victory of socialism.

Just before the arrival of the guests the respected and beloved Leader Marshal Kim Il Sung, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and Head of State and Premier of the Cabinet of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, arrived in the airfield amid the enthusiastic cheers of the crowd.

Also arriving in the airfield were Comrade Choi Yong Kun, Member of the Political Committee and its Presidium, and Secretary, of the CC of the WPK and President of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly; Comrade Kim Kwang Hyup, Member of the Political Committee and its Presidium, and Secretary, of the CC of the WPK and vice-Premier of the Cabinet; Comrade Pak Sung Chul, Member of the Political Committee of the CC of the WPK and vice-Premier of the Cabinet and Foreign Minister; Comrade Colonel-General Han Ik Soo, Candidate Member of the Political Committee of the CC of the WPK and vice-Minister of National Defence; and Kang Ryang Wook, vice-President of the Presidium of the SPA and Chairman of the CC of the North Korean Democratic Party; Pak Shin Duk, Member of the Presidium of the SPA and Chairman of the CC of the Religious Chungwoo Party; Paik Nam Woon, Chairman of the SPA; Presidium Members of the CC of the Democratic Front for the Unification of the Fatherland; Ministers of the Cabinet; responsible functionaries of Party and government organs and mass organizations, Generals of the Korean People's Army; leading personnel of science, culture, arts and the press.

Also present in the airfield were diplomatic representatives of different countries in Korea.

The crowd burst into a stormy cheers when the special plane carrying the distinguished guests of Syria appeared above the airfield at 11:30 a.m., escorted by a formation of pursuit planes of an air force unit of the Korean People's Army.

When the plane touched down, His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi got off from it, answering the cheers of the welcoming crowd.

Marshal Kim Il Sung exchanged a warm handshake with His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi.

Marshal Kim Il Sung and His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi exchanged speeches. **(See on page 1)**

Courtesy Call, Return Call

His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi, General Secretary of the ABSP and Head of State and Prime Minister of the SAR on a state visit to our country, paid on Sept. 27 a courtesy call on Marshal Kim Il Sung, General Secretary of the CC of the WPK and Head of State and Premier of the Cabinet of the DPRK.

Marshal Kim Il Sung had a friendly talk with His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi.

Marshal Kim Il Sung, General Secretary of the CC of the WPK and Head of State and Premier of the Cabinet of the DPRK, paid on the morning of Sept. 28 a return call on His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi, General Secretary of the ABSP and Head of State and Prime Minister of the SAR.

Banquets

Marshal Kim Il Sung, General Secretary of the CC of the WPK and Head of State and Premier of the Cabinet of the DPRK, arranged a grand banquet on the evening of Sept. 27 at the Mansoodai Assembly Hall in welcome of the Party and government delegation of the SAR headed by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi on a state visit to our country.

When Marshal Kim Il Sung together with the delegation headed by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi entered the banquet hall amid the playing of a welcome music, the entire attendants rose from their seats all at once and extended warm welcome with stormy applause.

Marshal Kim Il Sung and His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi made speeches at the banquet. **(See on page 2)**

His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi, General Secretary of the ABSP and Head of State and Prime Minister of the SAR arranged a grand banquet on the evening of Sept. 30 at the Okryoo Hall in honour of Marshal Kim Il Sung, General Secretary of the CC of the WPK and Head of State and Premier of the Cabinet of the DPRK.

His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi and Marshal Kim Il Sung spoke at the banquet.

Pyongyang Welcome Meeting

A grand Pyongyang City mass rally was held on Sept. 28 at the Moranbong Stadium in welcome of the Party and government delegation of the SAR headed by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi.

Marshal Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader, was present at the meeting.

The meeting place was packed to capacity with over 100,000 welcomers.

At 4:00 p.m. Marshal Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader, mounted the platform together with His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi, amid the playing of the welcome music.

The members of the Party and government delegation of the SAR headed by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi and suite members mounted the platform.

Kang Hi Won, Chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee, made a welcome speech at the rally.

After concluding his speech Chairman Kang Hi Won conveyed a silk banner in the name of the Pyongyang City mass rally to His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi.

Inscribed in the silk banner were the national flags of our country and Syria and the letters "Long Live the Friendship between the Korean People and the Syrian People!"

Then His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi, Head of the Party and government delegation of the SAR took the floor amid the thunderous applause and rousing cheers.

Marshal Kim Il Sung exchanged warm handshakes with His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi when he concluded his speech.

At the moment of stormy ovation and cheers of over 100,000 people shook the stadium and it turned into a veritable sea of flowers.

The mass rally closed with the playing of the national anthems of our country and the SAR.

Art Performances

The song and dance epic "Our Glorious Fatherland," a People's Prize Laureate, was performed at the Pyongyang Grand Theatre on the evening of Sept. 28 in welcome of the Party and government delegation of the SAR headed by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi.

Invited on the occasion were the members of the Party and government delegation of the SAR headed by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi.

Together with the respected and beloved Leader Premier Kim Il Sung, the Party and government delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic headed by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi, inspected the Mangyungdai Revolution School.

Marshal Kim Il Sung saw the performance together with the delegation headed by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi.

When Marshal Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader, appeared in the box together with the delegation headed by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi amid the playing of the welcome music, the entire audience rose and warmly welcomed them with thunderous applause.

Prior to the performance, the national anthems of Syria and our country were played.

The national opera "Eight Fairies of Mt. Keumgang" was performed on the evening of Oct.1 at the Pyongyang Grand Theatre in welcome of the Party and government delegation of the SAR headed by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi.

Marshal Kim Il Sung saw the performance together with the delegation headed by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi.

When Marshal Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader, appeared in the box together with the delegation headed by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi amid the playing of the welcome music, the entire audience extended warm welcome with thunderous standing ovation.

Prior to the performance the national anthems of Syria and our country were played.

The performance was acclaimed by the audience for its successful interpretation of the old legend on a high artistic level to suit the contemporary aesthetic tastes.

After the performance His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi presented a basket of flowers to the artists congratulating them on their successful performance.

Inspection

The Party and government delegation of the SAR headed by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi inspected on Sept. 28 the industrial-agricultural exhibition.

Marshal Kim Il Sung accompanied the guests.

The guests inspected the Mangyungdai Revolution School and the Pyongyang Students and Children's Palace on the afternoon of Sept. 29.

Marshal Kim Il Sung accompanied the guests.

The guests visited on Sept. 30 the Hwanghai Iron Works and the Hwasung co-operative farm.

Marshal Kim Il Sung accompanied the guests.

The Party and government delegation of the SAR headed by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi toured Hamheung on Oct.1.

A grand Hamheung city mass rally was held in the central square, Hamheung, on Oct. 1 in welcome of the Party and government delegation of the SAR headed by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi.

The central square, the meeting place, colourfully decorated in welcome of the guests was packed to overflowing with tens of thousands of citizens who, rallied close around Marshal Kim Il Sung, the great Leader of our people, are daily working new miracles and innovations with unbounded loyalty to the Leader, fully displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and standing in the van of economic construction and defence upbuilding, holding a rifle in one hand and a hammer and sickle in the other.

The guests saw on Oct. 1 the Bongoong February Eight Vinalon Factory, the Chullima factory where Comrade Kim Jong Sung works and the Bongdai co-operative farm in Jungpyung county, South Hamgyung Province.

DPRK Orders and Medals Awarded

The Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK awarded Orders and Medals of the DPRK to the members of the Party and government delegation of the SAR headed by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi.

The awarding ceremony was held on Oct. 2 in Pyongyang.

Marshal Kim Il Sung, General Secretary of the CC of the WPK and Head of State and Premier of the Cabinet of the DPRK, was present on the occasion.

Marshal Kim Il Sung awarded the Order of National Flag First Class to His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi, General Secretary of the ABSP and Head of State and Prime Minister of the SAR. **(See photo on page 2)**

Then Kang Pyang Wook, vice-President of the Presidium of the SPA, awarded the Order of National Flag Second Class to the members of the delegation, and the Order of National Flag Third Class, Medal of Meritorious Service and Merit Medal to suite members.

Marshal Kim Il Sung warmly congratulated His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi and members of the Party and government delegation of the SAR headed by him upon the conferment of Orders and Medals of the DPRK upon them.

His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi expressed thanks to Marshal Kim Il Sung for awarding Orders and Medals to him and members of the delegation accompanying him and said that the conferment of Orders and Medals of the DPRK upon them signifies the common struggle of the two countries against U.S. imperialism and Zionism and the friendly relations between the Korean people and Syrian people.

Departure

The Party and government delegation of the SAR headed by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi, General Secretary of the ABSP, Head of State and Prime Minister of the SAR, which had been on a state visit to our country at the invitation of Marshal Kim Il Sung, General Secretary of the CC of the WPK and Head of State and Premier of the Cabinet of the DPRK, left Pyongyang on Oct. 3 by special plane after successfully winding up its itinerary in our country.

A large number of working people in the city turned out to the airfield carrying national flags of the two countries, bunches of flowers and colorful balloons in their hands.

Marshal Kim Il Sung, together with the Party and government delegation of the SAR headed by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi, arrived at the airfield amid the warm cheers of the crowds.

Present at the airfield were Comrade Kim Kwang Hyup, Member of the Political Committee and its Presidium, and Secretary, of the CC of the WPK and vice-Premier of the Cabinet; Comrade Chung Joon Taik, vice-Premier of the Cabinet; Comrade Colonel-General Han Ik Soo, Candidate Member of the Political Committee of the CC of the WPK and vice-Minister of National Defence; and other functionaries of the Party and government organs and public organizations, Generals of the Korean People's Army, and responsible workers of science, culture, art and the press as well as home and foreign reporters.

Foreign diplomatic representatives in Pyongyang were also on hand.

A farewell ceremony for the Party and government delegation of the SAR headed by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi was held at the airfield.

Marshal Kim Il Sung and His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi made speeches at the airfield.

Marshal Kim Il Sung exchanged hearty handshakes with His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi and warmly embraced each other.

His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi and members of the delegation headed by him bade farewell to the leading cadres of the Party and Government of our country at the airfield.

His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi who climbed up the ladder wave to the cheering crowds.

At 9:00 a.m. the special plane carrying the guests took off the airfield, with a full cargo of the feelings of friendship cherished by our people toward the talented and valiant Syrian people, which have been further deepened through the visit of the Party and government delegation headed by His Excellency Noureddine Al-Atassi to our country. (KCNA)

Party and Gov't Delegation of DPRK Attends Celebrations of 20th Birthday of Chinese People's Republic

The Party and Government delegation of our country arrived in Peking on September 30 to attend the celebrations of the 20th Anniversary of the Founding of the Chinese People's Republic at the invitation of the Government of the CPR.

The delegation of our country headed by Comrade Choi Yong Kun, Member of the Political Committee and its Presidium, and Secretary, of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and President of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, was met at the airport by Comrade Chou En-lai, Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and Premier of the State Council of the CPR; Comrade Yeh Chien-ying, Member of the Political Bureau of the CCP Central Committee and vice-Chairman of the Military Commission of the Central Committee of the Party; Comrade Hsieh Fu-chinh, Member of the Political Bureau of the CCP Central Committee, vice-Premier of the State Council of the CPR; Comrade Choi Cha-hiu, Member of the Political Bureau of the CCP Central Committee and Deputy Chief of General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army; Comrade Kuo Mo-jo, Member of the CCP Central Committee and vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress of the CPR; and other responsible personages concerned.

The delegation was also met by Kim Jai Sook, Member of the Party and government delegation of our country and Charge d'Affaires Ad Interim, and staff members of the DPRK Embassy and foreign diplomatic representatives in China.

The national flags of our country and China were hoisted at the Peking Airport and a crowd of thousands of people warmly welcomed the delegation, carrying streamers "Long Live the Friendship between the Chinese and Korean Peoples!" "We Actively Support the Liberation Struggle of the Asian, African and Latin American Peoples!" "Long Live the Solidarity of the Asian and African Peoples!" and "Long Live the Unity of the People of the Whole World!" and red flags.

Then ceremony was held at the airport. The national anthems of our country and China were played. Comrade Choi Yong Kun, accompanied by Comrade Chou En-lai, reviewed the guard of honour.

The welcoming crowds, waving flags of our country and China, shouted at the top of their voices "Warm Welcome to the Distinguished Guests from Korea!"

After the welcome ceremony the delegation, accompanied by Premier Chou En-lai, headed for the guest house.

Talks were held in Peking on the second between Comrade Choi Yong Kun, Member of the Political Committee and its Presidium, and Secretary, of the CC of the Workers' Party of Korea and President of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, visiting the People's Republic of China to attend the celebrations of the 20th Anniversary of the Founding of the PRC, and Comrade Chou En-lai, Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and Premier of the State Council.

Present at the talks from our side were Comrade Pak Sung Chul, Member of the Political Committee of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, vice-Premier of the Cabinet and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; Kim Yun Nam, vice-Director of a Department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea; and Kim Jai Sook, Charge d'Affaires Ad Interim of the DPRK Embassy in Peking.

Present from the other side were Yeh Chien-ying, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and vice-Chairman of the Military Commission of the Central Committee of the CCP, Hsieh Fu-chih, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and vice-Premier of the State Council; Chiu Hui-tso, Member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party and Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army; and Han Nien-lung, vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs.

The talks proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

(KCNA)

On Our Country's Situation and Question of Korea's Unification

Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Pak Sung Chul Meets Representatives of Foreign Journalists and Men of Press who Attended World Conference of Journalists against U.S. Imperialism

PYONGYANG, Sept. 25 (KCNA) — Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Pak Sung Chul addressed a press conference today on the theme "On Our Country's Situation and the Question of Korea's Unification" in connection with a large number of questions put by representatives of journalists and men of the press of different countries to the World Conference of Journalists against U.S. Imperialism on the situation of our country, the stand of our Party toward the unification of the fatherland and its foreign policy and so forth.

The press conference was also attended by newspaper, news agency and radio reporters at home and foreign correspondents in our country

Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Pak Sung Chul first addressed the press conference.

He warmly congratulated the attendants of the International Conference of Journalists against U.S. Imperialism on the great successes of the conference.

He said:

Now let me first give you the outline of our country situation and the question of Korea's unification. After that, I will give answers to a series of questions you have raised.

Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader of our people, said as follows:

"The manoeuvrings of the U.S. imperialists for igniting another war in Korea have already reached a grave stage. They are actively making preparations in South Korea for a new war and have embarked upon the road of more openly perpetrating military provocations against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea."

The Korean people are now confronted directly with U.S. imperialism, the chieftain of world reaction, and have been undergoing the pains of national split for 24 years on account of the occupation of South Korea by the U.S. imperialists.

Owing to the manoeuvrings of the U.S. imperialists for igniting another war, the situation in our country has become strained to the last degree and the danger has arisen of a war breaking out again at any moment.

The incident of the U.S. imperialist armed spy ship "Pueblo" and the incident of their spy plane "EC-121" which took place one after the other last year and this year provide graphic evidence to show what a grave stage the danger of a new war has reached in Korea.

Needless to say, those incidents were not accidental. They constituted a link in the chain of the premeditated acts of the U.S. imperialists for igniting a new war in Korea.

He declared:

That we captured an armed spy ship and shot down an espionage plane, which penetrated into the territorial waters and air space of our country and perpetrated hostile espionage acts, represents an exercise of the sovereign right recognized by international laws and the sacred, inviolable right of our people. This notwithstanding, the U.S. imperialists threatened and intimidated us and came closer to the brink of a new war by concentrating in South Korea and the waters around our country as much air, and naval forces as they could mobilize, forces which were under their Pacific command.

Confronted with the firm and unshakable attitude of our people to counter any new war provocation and invasion of the enemy with a resolute, crushing blow and running up against the unanimous accusation of the peace-loving people of the world, the U.S. imperialist aggressors could not dare to unleash a new war.

Saying that the U.S. imperialists are ceaselessly indulging in a dangerous play with fire to ignite a new war, he cited instances to prove that the U.S. imperialists are reinforcing on a large scale their own aggression troops and puppet troops in South Korea.

Pointing out that the U.S. imperialists and their stooges are rapidly expanding military setups and bases, Comrade Pak Sung Chul said that they have newly built nine airfields since the "Pueblo" incident alone.

He said:

Violations of the armistice agreement committed by the U.S. imperialist aggressors from January to August this year, including armed attacks, air intrusions, firing of shells and bullets and infiltration of spies, which were perpetrated against the areas of our side, exceeded 6,660 cases.

Leading warmongers of U.S. imperialism come to South Korea one after another to look around the front areas and military bases, and summon traitor Pak Jung Hi and other South Korean puppets to Washington in rapid succession to discuss war plans.

He went on:

The U.S. imperialist aggressors continue reconnoitering flights over our country just as in the case of the "EC-121" incident in step with the new war manoeuvrings which are being stepped up every day.

The U.S. imperialists say that their reconnaissance planes are flying over the open sea. But there is no guarantee that they will not violate our air space. If the planes of the U.S. imperialist aggressors violate the territorial air of our country, our people will not remain passive but will take resolute measures to defend their sovereignty as ever. Then, using this as a pretext, the U.S. imperialists assert they will launch a large-scale "retaliatory" attack. Such being the case, our country is in a dangerous situation in which even an intrusion of the U.S. imperialist airplane may lead to an all-out war at any moment.

Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader of our people, said as follows:

"Judging from all the signs it is obvious that unless we maintain high revolutionary vigilance and get everything ready, the U.S. imperialists may launch a new war of aggression against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea at any moment."

The situation prevailing in Korea toady is simply the outcome of the U.S. imperialist world strategy for domination and plunder.

For more than 100 years the U.S. imperialists have been pursuing the aim of invading our country. When Korea was liberated from the Japanese imperialist yoke of colonial rule, the U.S. imperialists who landed in South Korea lorded it over there as a new colonial ruler and in 1950 started an aggressive war against the DPRK for the purpose of conquering the whole of Korea by arms.

He stressed:

The U.S. imperialist aggressors suffered a miserable defeat in this war for the first time in their history and were compelled to sign the armistice agreement in the face of the heroic resistance war of the Korean people who rose as one under the wise leadership of the great Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, ever-victorious, iron-willed brilliant commander and military strategic genius.

He said:

Although the war ravages were beyond description, our people set about the postwar reconstruction with a firm conviction that they could rise to their feet again regardless of any difficulties, under the sagacious leadership of the Leader so long as there were the Party, the power, the people and territory.

We, have, in a historically short span of time, turned our country into an independent socialist state with an advanced socialist system and the firm foundations of an independent national economy, a mighty all-people defense system and a brilliant national culture.

He exposed with concrete facts that the U.S. imperialists have been actively pushing ahead in South Korea with their preparations for another war in violation of the armistice agreement ever since its signing, in their efforts to realize by all means the aims of retrieving themselves from their past defeat and dominating the whole of Korea by unleashing another aggressive war in Korea where the beginning of their downfall took place have continued to hamper the peaceful unification of Korea.

He said:

In October 1966, Johnson, the warlike boss of U.S. imperialism, crawled directly into South Korea to spark up a new war psychosis. From then on, the tension has been further aggravated in Korea.

To take an example, in less than one year since October 1966, when Johnson visited South Korea, to the end of September 1967, the U.S. imperialist aggressor forces fired upon the areas of our side a total of over 69,000 bullets and shells, or over five times the total number fired by them in the 13 years till 1966 following the ceasefire in violation of the armistice agreement.

Comrade Pak Sung Chul said:

Another serious development that must be mentioned in connection with the present moves of the U.S. imperialists for igniting a new, criminal war in Korea is the fact that they are active in ushering the revived Japanese militarist forces into South Korea.

The U.S. imperialists, with a view to unleashing another war in Korea using South Korea as the advance base and the Japanese militarist forces as a shock brigade, brought Japan and the South Korean puppet clique to wind up the long-dragged "ROK-Japan Talks" and conclude the "ROK-Japan Agreements" in 1965.

As a result, a tripartite military alliance has been virtually formed among the U.S. imperialists, the Sato Government of Japan and the South Korean puppet clique bilateral military agreements, and the Japanese militarist forces have begun to openly stretch out the tentacles of aggression again to South Korea.

As is clear from the "Operation Three Arrows," "Operation Flying Dragon" and "Operation Running Bull" which have already been disclosed to the world, the Japanese militarists have drawn up detailed operational plans to join the U.S. imperialists in their moves for unleashing a war in Korea, and are

(Continued on page 5)

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watching and biding their time. When the incident of the "Pueblo" occurred the Sato Government of Japan ordered the so-called "self-defence forces," the army of renascent Japanese militarism, to be on emergency alert and prepared itself to dispatch its troops to Korea and when the incident of the "EC-121" plane took place, the Sato Government also openly declared that it would take part in "joint operations" with the U.S. imperialists.

Of late, brass hats of Japan's "self-defence forces" have openly visited South Korea and inspected the areas along the military demarcation line, and have gone so far as to draw up plans of "joint operations" with the Pak Jung Hi clique.

All facts portend that the day is drawing nearer when the aggression troops of Japan set foot in South Korea again.

It is quite obvious that if another war breaks out in Korea, it will be a more fierce and bloody war than ever before; it will be a large-scale war the flames of which will soon spread from Korea to other areas, too.

This is a development to which all the peace-loving peoples of the world should direct their attention and follow with sharp vigilance.

Today, the U.S. imperialists try to justify all their criminal war moves in Korea by describing them as steps to prevent "communist aggression from the North."

The U.S. imperialists always stick to the same old trick of passing the buck of provocation to the other party before the world opinion, while they themselves are the very ones who create the trouble first.

Recalling the words of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader of our people, that **"Our Party and the Government of the Republic have invariably made efforts for the peaceful settlement of the Korean question. We have no intention to march southwards, nor do we wish to settle the issue of the unification of Korea by the force of arms,"** he said:

As we see in the incidents of the armed spy ship "Pueblo" and the spy plane "EC-121," the trouble lies in the incessant perpetration of aggressive and war-provocative manoeuvres by the U.S. imperialists in a foreign land tens of thousands of miles away from their own, and is by no means ascribable to us.

If it were not for the occupation of South Korea by the U.S. imperialists, there would be neither such tension nor war danger at all in Korea as today.

The U.S. imperialists pretend to have the responsibility of "protecting the security" of South Korea, but the "protection" blurted out by the occupant himself is simply ludicrous.

The South Korean people have never asked the U.S. imperialists this "protection." The truth is that the people of South Korea have repeatedly resisted in sanguinary struggles the colonial rule imposed upon them by the U.S. imperialists and have overthrown a puppet regime of theirs they have never asked them for any "protection." If some have done so, they are only the handful of traitors to the nation in South Korea.

Any sophistry is possible according to the inverse logic of the U.S. imperialist aggressors who assert that they have come to "protect" the half of someone else's country while they are occupying it, and call us "aggressors" when we are the masters of that land. But nobody believes it.

In short, the so-called "communist aggression from the North" is a screen that the U.S. imperialists have thrown up to cover up their vicious scheme of continuously occupying South Korea, and of invading the whole of Korea and Asia.

There is not the slightest change in the stand of our Party, the Government and the people to maintain and consolidate peace in Korea and settle the question of unifying Korea in a peaceful way.

Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great Leader of the 40 million Korean people, in the report he made at the 20th anniversary celebration of the founding of the DPRK held last year and in many other works, has time and again specifically clarified the standpoint of our Party and Government as to the South Korean revolution and the issue of the unification of Korea. In July this year, he again gave clear-cut answers to these questions in his replies to questions raised by the Iraqi news agency and to "Kansan Uutiset," central organ of the Finnish Communist Party.

In reference to the basic policy regarding the unification of the country, he said as follows:

"It has been already widely announced to the South Korean people and the peoples of the whole world that we have consistently desired to realize the unification of Korea in a peaceful way. It is our plan for the country's unification to set up a united, central government through North-South general elections on a democratic basis without any interference of outside forces, after having the U.S. imperialists withdrawn from South Korea."

Declaring that our plan of national unification is acceptable to all and a most fair and square, reasonable one, Comrade Pak Sung Chul said that the U.S. imperialists and the successive puppet rulers of South Korea, have doggedly opposed this righteous plan of ours for peaceful unification.

He recalled that under the circumstances that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet rulers persistently oppose the setting-up of a united government of Korea through free North-South general elections, we have put forward a series of specific ways to gradually approach the full unification of the country through some preliminary steps, such as a confederation of the North and the South, economic and cultural exchanges between the North and the South, the exchange of letters, conclusion of a peace agreement between the North and the South and reduction of the North and South Korean armies to 100,000 or less respectively. But, he said, the U.S. imperialists and their agents rejected all these plans of ours for peaceful unification, and instead answered to our sincere efforts every time with aggressive, provocative actions.

The U.S. imperialists and the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique arrest and severely punish people in South Korea, all and sundry, at the mere utterance of the phrase: "Peaceful unification."

The question of Korea's unification is question of restoring the unity of our nation which was originally homogeneous; it is an internal affair which should be settled by the Koreans themselves.

He went on:

In the light of the principles of its Charter, the U.N. has originally no ground to meddle in the question of Korea's unification. All the more, the U.N. has forfeited even the moral dignity to meddle in the solution of the question of Korea's unification because its banner was usurped by the U.S. imperialists and thus it was reduced to a party to the Korean War. It constitutes an act of camouflaging their policy of aggression and war and a direct and flagrant violation of the U.N. Charter that the U.S. imperialists unlawfully brought up the "Korean question" for discussion at the U.N. and made the so-called "resolutions" at will in the absence of representative of the DPRK. Therefore, we do not accept them and we declare them null and void.

As for the essence of the so-called "election under U.N. supervision" being invented by them, it is no more than a shield to justify in the name of the U.N. the results of the "election" manufactured by means of fraud and tricks under the threat of bayonets of U.S. imperialism for extending their colonial rule imposed upon the South Korean people to the northern half.

All the facts show that the peaceful unification of Korea cannot be attained so long as the U.S. imperialist aggression troops stay in South Korea and the present puppet regime, their stooge, is allowed to remain, he said and continued:

The respected and beloved Leader Comrade Kim Il Sung said that under these circumstances the peaceful unification of our country can be attained only after the U.S. imperialist aggression troops have been driven out of South Korea, the present puppet regime is overturned by the South Korean people and the progressive forces seize power in South Korea. He taught as follows:

"If the U.S. imperialists get out of South Korea and the democratic and progressive forces with national conscience seize power even now, we are ready to hold negotiations with them on the question of unifying the country by peaceful means."

This teaching illumines more clearly the proposals of our country's peaceful unification.

Through their bitter experience of over 20 years, the South Korean people realize ever more keenly that they must not have any illusion about the U.S. imperialists and that only when they smash up U.S. imperialism and its lackeys by an all-people resistance struggle can they achieve freedom, liberation and the country's unification, and are vigorously waging various forms of active anti-U.S., national-salvation struggles, armed struggle included.

Alarmed at this, the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys are raising anti-communist clamours ever more noisily, describing the revolutionary struggle of the patriotic people in South Korea as "invasion from North Korea," and by faking up various "cases," such as the "case" of the United Revolutionary Party, the "case" of the People's Revolutionary Party, the "case of the Operative Group for Communizing South Korea" and the "case" of the Society for Comparative Study of Nationalism, arrested and jailed South Korean revolutionaries and patriots who were engaged in such a sacred struggle, and tortured and butchered them by medieval methods, he said, and continued:

All the personalities involved in the various cases including the "case" of the United Revolutionary Party whom the South Korean puppet clique have arrested, imprisoned and murdered by describing them as connected with the work of North Korea, are university professors, pressmen, armymen and civil servants of South Korea.

Where there is exploitation and oppression, there always is the resistance of the people. It is inevitable that the South Korean people should fight against the oppressors for their freedom and liberation.

With nothing can the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys conceal the hard fact that the present crisis in South Korea is ascribable to no one but it is a product of the U.S. imperialists' colonial rule itself.

As the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppet clique have always been against our plans for the country's peaceful unification, our people in the northern half regard it as their imperative national duty to actively support and aid the righteous struggle of the South Korean people for freedom, liberation and national unification.

Now in South Korea many youths and students have risen and are unfolding fierce demostration struggles against the manoeuvres for the so-called "revision of the constitution for the third-term election to presidency" framed up by the puppet Pak Jung Hi clique for the purpose of staying in "power" for a long time. Theirs are struggle for anti-feudal, democratization and a patriotic struggle for safeguarding the honour of the nation against the colonial enslavement policy of U.S. imperialism.

We are firmly convinced that the day will come soon when the South Korean people turn the U.S. imperialists out of South Korea without fail, topple the Pak Jung Hi puppet regime and establish a people's government by themselves, and realize the unification of the country jointly with the people in the northern half.

Then he referred to the position of our Party, Government and people to cope with the grave situation created in our country today owing to the U.S. imperialist manoeuvres for unleashing another war.

He quoted the following teaching of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader of our people:

"The Korean people do not want war but are never afraid of it. If the enemy forces a new war upon us, all the people will rise as one in a heroic struggle to defend the great socialist gains in the northern half of the Republic, attain the complete liberation and unification of the fatherland and safeguard peace in Asia and the world and will deal annihilating blows to the enemy."

Our people, who have inherited the brilliant revolutionary traditions of the glorious anti-Japanese armed struggle, are vigorously carrying on economic construction and defence upbuilding in parallel with a gun in one hand and a hammer and a sickle in the other, arming the entire people and turning the whole land into an impregnable fortress to guarantee perfection in national defence in the light of the ever intensified moves for a new war on the part of the U.S. imperialists.

Small as our country is, it will never permit any imperialist aggression force to invade and insult us. We are filled with a firm determination to fight to the very end in defence of our sovereignty and national dignity, even if it should cost us our lives.

And we will do our best in future too, solve the problem of Korea's unification in a peaceful way according to our consistent policy.

In order to maintain peace and eliminate the serious tension in Korea, it is necessary, first of all that, the U.S. imperialists put an end to all their aggressive activities and war manoeuvres against the Korean people at once, and withdraw from South Korea without delay taking along with them their aggression troops and homicidal weapons.

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At that time we Arab people actively supported your struggle, firmly standing on the side of the Korean people.

The victories won by the Korean people in all these struggles are also a victory for the entire world people fighting for freedom.

The Arab people also followed with deep admiration the great achievements made by the Korean people in the struggle for liquidating the aftermath of the colonial rule of Japanese imperialism and the evil consequences of the aggressive war unleashed by U.S. imperialism.

The successes you have made by embodying the ideas of *Juche* in all fields, economic, cultural and social, serve as a splendid example for the peoples who are striving to solve all problems by relying upon themselves on the principle of *Juche*.

Our people, valuing mutual cooperation among the peoples, are advancing at a rapid tempo to become self-reliant in all fields.

Words fail to express the common struggle linking the Arab people and the Korean people.

You are struggling against the division of your country and the aggression and threat of imperialism and the Arab people are also struggling against the split of their motherland forced by imperialism and the Zionist aggression backed by world imperialism headed by U.S. imperialism.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and the Arab people in Syria fully support the struggle of the Korean people for achieving the unification of their fatherland independently on a democratic principle without any outside interference after driving the U.S. imperialist troops out of South Korea.

I assure you that the Arab people will resolutely fight to liberate the Arab territory occupied by the imperialist Zionist forces and achieve the unification of the Arab motherland.

I highly appreciate the valuable stand manifested by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the cause of the Arab people, especially the cause of Palestine, and convey the respect and thanks of the Arab people to the Korean people for their active support and encouragement to the Arab people all along in the past, to say nothing of the time when the imperialist Zionists perpetrated aggression against the Arab territory on June 5, 1967.

Friends!

Our common struggle will continue till the enemy of mankind, our common enemy, is vanquished.

To this end, we ardently call for forming an anti-imperialist united front and uniting the broad anti-imperialist forces to deal a powerful blow at imperialism.

We are firmly convinced that such joint struggle is the only guarantee for putting an end to imperialism in the world and winning victory.

Long live the Arab-Korea friendship!

Long live the common struggle of the Arab people and the Korean people for wiping out imperialism and Zionism! (KCNA)

(Continued from page 2)

destroying everything we had built and blocking the advance of the Arab revolution.

In point of fact, the colonialists laid the base of Zionism in Palestine, the heart-centre of the Arab fatherland, to bleed white the Arab people and use it as a military base for continuous aggressive manoeuvres.

Zionism, a colonialist racial movement and colonialism of the highest form, implanted to other's country, perpetrated and is still perpetrating sordid crimes infringing upon the rights of the Arab people.

But the Syrian Arab people stubbornly opposed the aggression and criminal acts of Zionism and are fighting now more stubbornly and resolutely than ever before to liberate their fatherland, unify their fatherland and sweep away imperialism and Zionism.

The first place in our home economic plan is held by the plan of dyke construction of the Euphrates River where the 10th stage of the project has already been completed.

The fulfilment of our economic plan is linked with the important successes made under the leadership of the Arab Baath Socialist Party.

The Arab people consider that their struggle is part of the struggle of the world people against imperialism and for liberation, and firmly believe that only the joint struggle of the people can deal a decisive blow at the intrigues of the imperialists to beat the people one by one.

Therefore, the Arab people hope for better solidarity among the fighting forces of the world and the strengthening of their front of struggle.

Long live the struggle of the people against imperialism and Zionism!

Long live the common struggle of the Arab and Korean peoples!

Long live the Arab-Korea friendship!

I propose a toast to the good health of His Excellency Premier Kim Il Sung and to a greater success to the Korean people in the future. (KCNA)

(Continued from page 5)

The U.N. must not be used any further as a tool of U.S. imperialism for aggression in Korea, and must withdraw the U.S. imperialist aggression troops that occupy South Korea under the signboard of the "U.N. forces" and take measures to dissolve the so-called "UNCURK" without delay.

As mentioned above, the U.S. imperialist aggression troops have no ground and pretext to stay in South Korea. The occupation of South Korea by the U.S. imperialists and their aggressive policy are the source of all the miseries and sufferings of our nation and the main obstacle to the unification of Korea.

The Korean Armistice Agreement unequivocally states that the U.S. imperialist aggression troops should withdraw from South Korea. If only the U.S. imperialist aggression troops withdraw from South Korea, we will solve the problem of Korean unification in a peaceful way among the Koreans themselves at any time. Ours is a sagacious and cultured nation that has the ability enough to settle their national problems by themselves.

I express the hope that you distinguished journalists and pressmen of the world who have attended the recent World Conference of Journalists against U.S. Imperialism will unfold a more active struggle in future in support of the righteous cause of our people to get the U.S. imperialist aggression troops withdrawn from South Korea and achieve the peaceful unification of the country independently.

The Korean people's struggle to make the U.S. imperialist aggressors quit South Korea and unify the country in a peaceful way is a link in the anti-imperialist, anti-U.S. struggle afoot on a world-wide scale, and a righteous struggle to safeguard peace in Asia and the world.

Answering the questions concerning the measures taken by the Government of the Republic for national unification and its present stand and the prospect of national unification, he said:

To achieve the national unification, the unanimous aspiration of the entire Korean people, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has put forth time and again realistic proposals on realizing the peaceful unification of the fatherland by the Korean people themselves without any interference of outside forces from the time when the U.S. imperialists who occupied South Korea after the surrender of Japanese imperialism began openly scheming to split our country and nation.

He also pointed in detail to the fact that following the ceasefire the Government of the Republic has made every possible effort to realize the unification, pulling down the artificial barriers standing between North and South Korea by using every possibility, however slightest it may be, for the attainment of the national unification.

Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Pak Sung Chul went on to say:

But, the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys, Pak Jung Hi clique, answered each time all our sincere proposals with aggressive and provocative manoeuvres and further intensified the fascist repression of the patriotic people demanding the unification of the fatherland in South Korea.

Under these conditions the independent peaceful unification of Korea is unthinkable so long as the U.S. imperialist aggressors and the Pak Jung Hi puppet clique are allowed to remain in South Korea.

If the U.S. imperialists get out of South Korea and the democratic and progressive forces with national conscience seize power even now, we are ready to hold negotiations with them on the question of unifying the country by peaceful means.

The peaceful unification of our country can be achieved only after the U.S. imperialist aggression army has been driven out of South Korea and the South Korean people have overthrown the present puppet regime and the progressive forces taken power.

Referring to the proposals for the national unification put forth by Comrade Kim Il Sung in view of the fact that the U.S. imperialists refuse as ever to accept his sincere and just proposals, not giving up their wild ambition, the vice-Premier continued:

The task is to continue to make all efforts to increase and strengthen the three revolutionary forces, that is the revolutionary force in the northern half of the Republic, the revolutionary force in South Korea and the international revolutionary force, as Comrade Kim Il Sung pointed out.

Touching upon the correlation between the national democratic revolution in South Korea and the national unification, Comrade Pak Sung Chul declared: When the U.S. imperialists are chased out of South Korea and their colonial puppet regime overthrown by the struggle of the South Korean people and thus the people's democratic revolution triumphs, the cause of the unification of our fatherland will be successfully accomplished by the united might of the socialist forces in the northern half and the patriotic democratic forces in the southern half.

Pointing to the struggle of South Korean revolutionaries and patriots against the U.S. imperialists and their stooges, the vice-Premier stated: Their struggle is developing into an active, anti-U.S. national salvation struggle of all forms including armed struggle. He continued:

Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader of the 40 million Korean people, said: **"Through the active and arduous revolutionary struggle, the South Korean people will be all the more awakened and tempered and will grow into an invincible revolutionary force which will eventually be able to repulse any malignant enemy. And once a revolutionary situation arrives, they will definitely crush U.S. imperialism and its lackeys and achieve the final victory for the revolution."**

Noting that the U.S. imperialists may unleash a war of aggression against the northern half of the Republic at any time, Comrade Pak Sung Chul further stressed:

Our people are now vigorously pushing through our Party's line of carrying on economic construction and defence upbuilding in parallel and training the whole army into a cadre army and modernizing it, placing the entire people under arms and converting the whole country into a fortress, holding a rifle in one hand and a hammer and sickle in the other in view of the ever-intensified new war provocation manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialists.

They have thus converted the whole country into an invulnerable fortress so that they can thoroughly annihilate the enemy no matter from what place they may invade our country.

Recalling that the U.S. imperialist aggressors changed the "automatic placement" into "discretional placement" when discussing the "Korean question" in the U.N., Comrade Pak Sung Chul stated that this is a new crafty trick of the U.S. imperialists to make the U.N. meddle more deeply in the Korean question and make the "U.N. Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea" fabricate hosts of false "reports" in advance with the aim of covering up the truth when they unleash a new war against our country and thus use it more "effectively" for veiling their criminal act. He continued:

The U.N. must no longer allow such manoeuvres of the U.S. imperialists, must not discuss the "Korean question" under the coercion of U.S. imperialism. It must take measures for dissolving the "U.N. Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea," a tool of aggression of U.S. imperialism, along with a measure for the withdrawal of the U.S. imperialist aggressor troops occupying South Korea under the signboard of the "U.N. forces."

Then vice-Premier Pak Sung Chul answered questions concerning the foreign policy of the Government of the Republic and the international situation and international questions.

Pointing to the basic principle of the foreign policy of the DPRK, the present international position of the DPRK and its diplomatic, economic and cultural relations with foreign countries, the vice-Premier said:

Comrade Premier Kim Il Sung taught us as follows:

"It is the consistent policy of our Party in international affairs to safeguard the unity of the socialist camp and the solidarity of the international communist movement, to develop the relations of friendship and cooperation with the newly independent countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America, to support the anti-imperialist, national-liberation movements of the peoples in these regions and the revolutionary movements of the peoples of all countries, to oppose the imperialist policy of aggression and war and to strive for world peace."

The vice-Premier said: The basic principle of the foreign policy of our Party is to serve to strengthen the international solidarity of the revolution of our country and expedite the general development of the revolutionary movement of the world. This is an embodiment of the great ideas of *Juche* and independent line of Comrade Kim Il Sung. It is thoroughly based on the firm anti-imperialist revolutionary stand and lofty proletarian internationalist stand.

They have thus converted the whole country into an invulnerable fortress so that they can thoroughly annihilate the enemy no matter what place they may invade our country.

Recalling that the U.S. imperialist aggressors changed the "automatic placement" into "discretional placement" when discussing the "Korean question" in the U.N., Comrade Pak Sung Chul stated that this is a new crafty trick of the U.S. imperialists to make the U.N. involved deeply in the Korean question and make the U.N. Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea fabricate hosts of false "reports" in advance with the aim of covering up the truth when they unleash a new war against our country and thus use it more "effectively" for veiling their criminal act. He continued:

The U.N. must no longer allow such manoeuvres of the imperialists, must not discuss the "Korean question" under the coercion of U.S. imperialism. It must take measures for dissolving the "U.N. Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea," a tool of aggression of U.S. imperialism, along with a measure for the withdrawal of the U.S. imperialist aggressor troops occupying South Korea under the signboard of the "U.N. forces."

Then vice-Premier Pak Sung Chul answered questions concerning the foreign policy of the Government of the Republic and the international situation and international questions.

Our independent principled foreign policy enjoys support from an increasing number of countries of the world and has consolidated the international position of our country as never before.

Pointing to our stand for the development of relations with socialist countries, he said:

It is the unshakable keynote of the foreign policy of the Government of our Republic to cement the unity of the socialist countries and steadily develop the relations of friendship and cooperation with all socialist countries.

We are steadily developing relations with the fraternal countries on the basis of a correct combination of independence and unity.

Referring to the foreign trade of our country, especially development of economic and trade relations with the socialist countries, vice-Premier Pak Sung Chul continued:

Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader of our people, said as follows concerning the general direction of the development of economic relations with foreign countries:

"The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, while continuing to hold fast to the line of building an independent national economy by enlisting its own potentials and domestic resources to the maximum under the banner of self-reliance, will establish economic relations and develop foreign trade with other countries on the principles of proletarian internationalism."

Today the Government of the Republic conducts trade with more than 70 countries of the world, attaching prime importance to the world socialist market in developing foreign trade and are expanding and developing economic relations with new-born independent countries of Asia and Africa.

At present the main export goods of our country are various machine tools, various kinds of rolled steel, chemical products, building materials, metal and non-metal minerals, various kinds of light industrial goods, foodstuffs, farm produce and indigenous products and the like.

Speaking of the close ties of the liberation struggles of Asia, Africa and Latin America, vice-Premier Pak Sung Chul said: On this question Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader of our people, clarified in detail in his works of genius **"Let Us Intensify the Anti-Imperialist, Anti-U.S. Struggle"** and **"Great Anti-Imperialist Revolutionary Cause of Asian, African and Latin American Peoples Is Invincible."**.

Speaking of the attitude of the Government of the DPRK toward the non-allied, neutral nations, vice-Premier Pak Sung Chul quoted the following words of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader: **"Our Party and Government regard it as an important link in their foreign policy to establish and develop friendly relations with those countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America which have gained their national independence."**

The vice-Premier said:

The Government of the Republic actively supports the struggle of the Asian, African and Latin American peoples to free themselves from the imperialist subjugation, strives to strengthen unity with them and endeavours to further develop the relations of friendship and cooperation with the new-born independent countries and neutral nations on the principles of complete equality, mutual respect for sovereignty and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

We are also making all efforts to develop economic relations with newly independent countries on the principle of mutual accommodation with no political or economic strings attached.

Pointing to the question of diplomatic relations with Latin American countries, he stated:

We are making all efforts to establish and develop state relations with all the national independent countries including Latin American countries on the principles of complete equality, respect for sovereignty and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

Referring to the development of the massive struggle in South Vietnam, he said:

The Korean people highly appraise the heroic struggle of the South Vietnamese people and express militant solidarity with it.

We firmly believe that the South Vietnamese people will certainly win a brilliant, final victory in the sacred struggle for driving out the U.S. imperialist aggressors, overthrowing the puppet clique, building an independent, democratic, peaceful and neutral South Vietnam and accomplishing the peaceful reunification of the country.

Pointing to the fact that the communists, progressive and democratic forces of Austria are endeavouring to establish diplomatic relations with the DPRK, he said: I think this is a good thing.

Speaking of the similar aspects of the U.S. imperialists' policy of splitting Korea, Vietnam and the Arab land, vice-Premier Pak Sung Chul stated:

This has a similarity as a link in the U.S. imperialists' strategy of smashing countries one by one.

The peoples of Korea, Vietnam and Arab and all the revolutionary peoples of the world, he emphasized, should heighten vigilance against the U.S. imperialist frenzied policy of aggression and should counter this policy by joining efforts to tear limbs off U.S. imperialism. Then vice-Premier Pak Sung Chul said what he hoped from the Japanese journalists (the question of intercourse between Japanese and Korean journalists included) and what view he has on the Japanese press.

He declared, today the progressive journalists and press of Japan are playing an important role in exposing the policy of aggression pursued by U.S. imperialism and the reactionary Sato Government and rousing the Japanese people to the struggle against U.S. imperialism and Japanese militarism.

The progressive journalists and press of Japan should make efforts to expose more fully the aggressive moves of the U.S. imperialists and the Japanese militarists.

Vice-Premier Pak Sung Chul expressed the conviction that the progressive journalists and press of Japan would actively participate in the future, too, in the anti-U.S., anti-imperialist struggle in Japan on the basis of the declaration adopted at the World Conference of Journalists against U.S. imperialism.

He expressed the hope that they would extend active support and encouragement to the struggle of our people for chasing the U.S. imperialist aggressors out of South Korea and achieving the independent peaceful unification of the country.

He said:

As to the question of intercourse between the Korean and Japanese journalists, we have consistently strived for the realization of intercourse between journalists. But, this has not yet been realized owing to the hostile policy of the Japanese Government toward our country.

After reviewing the general economic situation of our country, vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Pak Sung Chul said:

Upholding the programmatic tasks put forth by Comrade Kim Il Sung, the respected and beloved Leader, at the Conference of the WPK and in the 10-point Political Programme of the Government of the Republic and the report at the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Republic, the entire working people of our country are now waging a powerful struggle for carrying out this year's national economy plan which is of great significance in capturing all the main heights of the Seven-Year Plan and are overfulfilling the tasks of this year's plan in many branches. All this is attributable to the wise leadership of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great Leader of the 40 million Korean people.

All our successes made in economic construction in the past are a brilliant victory of the line and policy of our Party and the Government of the Republic, the embodiment of the ideas of *Juche*, which are run through with the revolutionary ideas of independence self-sustenance and self-defence created by the Leader, and a clear manifestation of the invincible vitality and great superiority of the state and social system of our Republic and a great fruit of the patriotic struggle and creative labour of our people, rallied rock-firm around the Party and the Government.

The press conference proceeded amid the great interest of the attendants.

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